

YEAR 1901 BREAKS RECORD IN RICHMOND'S PROSPERITY

VIRGINIA STEPPING LIVELY IN MARCH OF PROGRESS

Wonderful Advances in Every Line of Business.

BANKS TAKE LEAD.

Their Clearings Show a Tremendous Gain.

BIG JOBBING TRADE.

Makes a Splendid Exhibit in Capital and Sales.

THE INDUSTRIES FORGE AHEAD

Increase in Plants, Hands, Capital and Sales Reach Remarkable Figures—Many New Enterprises Added to the List—Retail Men Prosper—Railroads All Happy and Real Estate Men Smiling—Building Active and Insurance Men Busy.

RECORD OF THE YEAR 1901.

Manufacturing output\$ 55,958,105
Increase over 19007,016,241
Jobbing Sales41,375,000
Increase over 19002,738,300
Bank Clearings198,991,536
Increase over 190022,554,060
Failures—16 with liabilities194,782
Total Trade Sales111,000,000
Industrial Development estimated7,000,000

Richmond, dear old Richmond, the Queen City of the South, starts the year 1902 under the brightest conditions ever known in her history. There is everything to look forward to, while the year 1901 has been a record-breaker from every point of view. She has surmounted all difficulties during the year just closed, and takes her place to-day as the leading industrial and commercial center of the South, the vast distributing point from which her products are sent all over the world.

And her future, what shall I say of that? It was never brighter. Pluck, enterprise, energy, good business judgment, foresight, confidence, loyalty to her interests on the part of her public-spirited citizens, faith in her possibilities, a determination to compete successfully with all comers, and all that is represented in that expressive, if not eloquent, elegant term—*pluck*—have put Richmond where she deserves to be—in the front ranks of enterprising cities with a glorious past and a splendid future, until now there is no fear for Richmond.

If any creaking citizen who has lounged about from place to place and spent his time shrugging his shoulders, arching his brows and damming with faint praise, has felt skeptical about the possibilities of the beautiful city on the James, he has now but to cast his eyes over the facts as set forth below, and all doubt will be removed.

FACTS THAT SPEAK.

The industrial activity of the city has shown a marked increase, in both the volume of business and the enlargement of plants, and the number of hands employed. The large increase in the number of operatives employed. In the year 1900 the number of manufacturing enterprises in Richmond and Manchester was 1,338; the number of hands employed in these plants, 29,563. The capital invested was \$19,125,389, and the amount represented by the sales \$48,862,864.

Now, compare these figures with those of the year just closed, and the increase along the line cannot but impress one who feels an interest in the material development of Richmond. The number of plants in the city during the year just closed was 1,369; the number of hands employed, 27,575; the capital invested, \$21,986,612, and the amount represented by the sales, \$55,958,105. This is an increase of 31 new plants, 2,412 operatives, \$3,861,223 capital, and \$7,095,241 in sales. Do not these figures mean much for the industrial enterprise of Richmond? No other city in the South can boast of so healthy a growth.

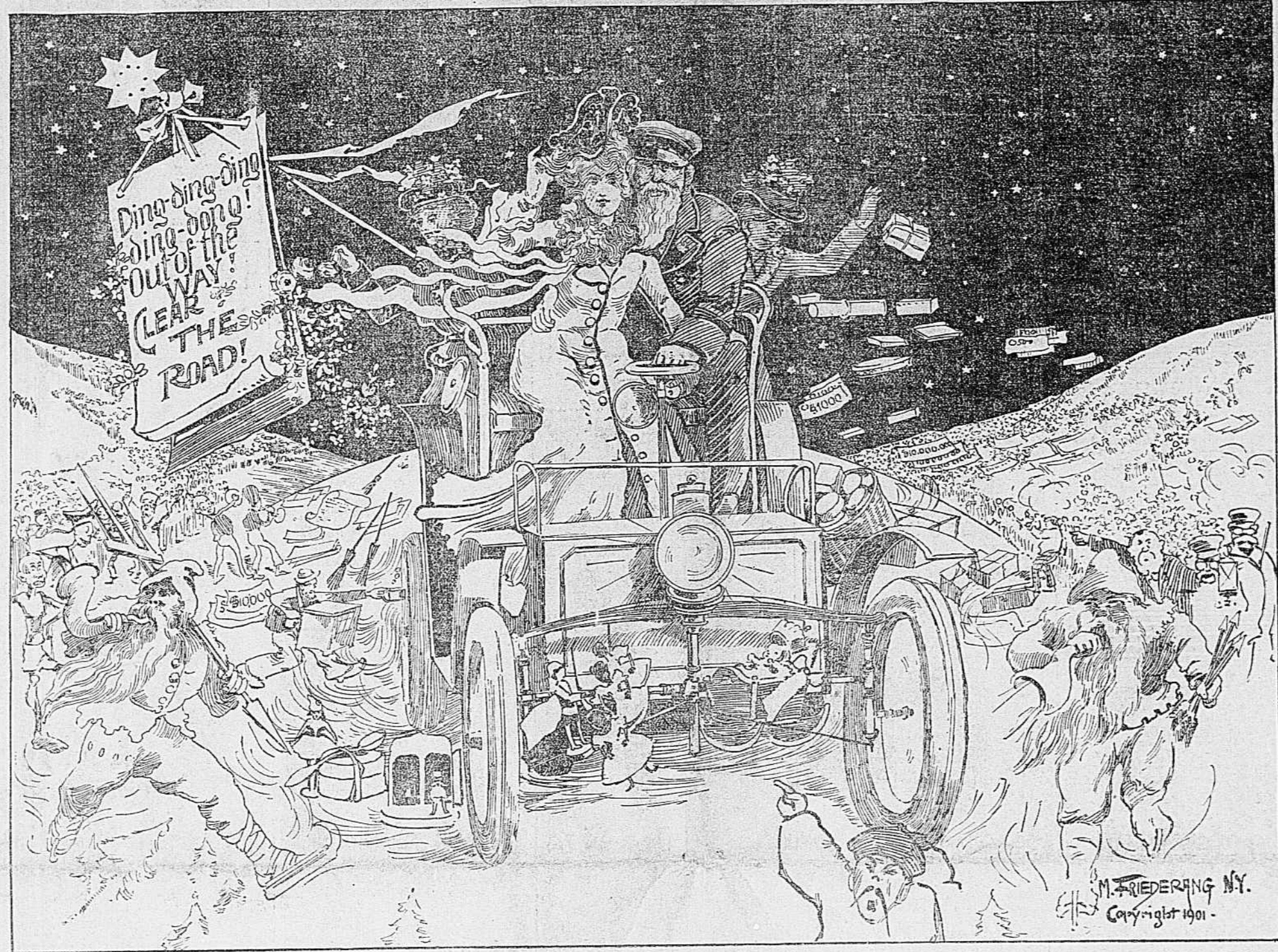
Among the largest growth was made in the iron and tobacco industries. Many others came in for a big increase. The immense sales during the year show how steady is the growth of the demand for Richmond-made goods all over the country, and is a tribute to the intelligence, skill and efficiency of the workmanship of Richmond's working classes, while the big increase in the number of hands employed here indicates the determination on the part of the local manufacturers to supply the steadily-increasing market for Richmond products and broaden the distribution through which their output is distributed.

THE JOBBING TRADE.

A glance at the jobbing trade. Like the manufacturing, this has been most gratifying, and speaks eloquently for this city as a great distributing center. In 1900 the capital invested in the jobbing business of Richmond and Manchester amounted to \$10,072,500, and the sales amounted to \$38,356,700. In 1901 the capital invested was \$10,253,000, while the sales amounted to \$41,375,000, an increase in capital of \$177,500 and in sales of \$2,738,300. This is certainly a fine exhibit for Richmond, and leaves no doubt of the city's bright future, so far as the jobbing business is concerned.

BANKS TAKE LEAD.

But to the banks, which are always a good barometer of the business transacted in a community. In this field of commerce



THE TIMES WISHES ALL OF ITS FRIENDS A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

NEW YEAR'S GREETING.

(Copyrighted.)

Ding-ding-ding-dong-dong! Out of the way! Clear the road! I come, bringing gifts for all! Gifts for the good, gifts for the evil. Gifts for the New Year, for the year that is to come! Ding-dong-dong-ding! Make way, gifts I bring.

To Roosevelt I bring a peaceful administration! Sweet is rest after toil.

To the Senate and Representatives I bring strength to do their duty—the duty they owe to this fair land of ours; faithfully may they do it!

For Governor Montague, renewed strength to fight the battle for Right and Truth! Heavily laden are his shoulders! He shall be given strength to bear his burdens!

To our Mayor and Council, I bring the vigilant eye and the willing arm! The eye that shall detect all corruption, unrighteousness, impurity, and the arm to correct and chastise!

To all generous and good Americans, I bring the blessings of a spirit at peace with itself!

For the home, the fathers and the mothers and the little ones, I bring a long, happy new year. A year that shall purify them and bless them. A year that shall teach them that the humble, the meek, the pure in heart are indeed blessed, thrice blessed.

For our new additions, Porto Rico and the Philippines, I bear the blessings of civilization. May they grow and prosper, even as we, who protect them, grow and prosper.

Unto Russia and Italy and France and Germany, I bring the spirit of Freedom and Liberty, which does not need guns and human flesh to sacrifice, but the spirit of Faith and Hope and Charity.

For England, the mighty, I bring a new-born pity for the weak and the oppressed. I bring a new sense of the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God.

For the people of the Orient, I bear the light of education and love for home; the light that shall cause them to realize how much is lacking at home ere they travel in foreign lands.

And unto you all, health and happiness for the unborn year.

Ding-ding-ding-dong-dong! Br-r-r-r, out of my way! Clear the path! Gifts I bring!

THE FLOOD AND FIRE CAUSE EXCITEMENT

River Reaches Greatest Height in Eleven Years—Thirty Acres of City Under Water—Interesting Incidents.

Greatest height of the water reached at Richmond was 23 2-10 feet. This was yesterday afternoon between 3 and 4 o'clock. The water was then 4 feet 10 inches in Main Street, 30 yards west of Seventeenth Street. It was also 6 feet deep in Franklin Street, where the First Market is intersected.

The western extent of the water on Main Street was No. 1505 East Main and the eastern limit No. 1711 East Main.

The chief damage was to merchandise which was not gotten out of the reach of the water, and because of the delay occasioned manufacturing plants.

There were several narrow escapes, but no loss of life.

All the city's gas supply was cut off yesterday at 9 A. M.

The flood renders 500 people homeless and paralyzes 15 business establishments.

The water will be out of Main Street by to-night. By to-morrow night the freshest will be a matter of history.

The flood reached a height of 28.2 feet. This was yesterday afternoon about 2 o'clock. The water remained stationary until between 4 and 5. Then it began to recede slowly. By 7 o'clock the river had slung back towards its banks three inches—none to speak of. By midnight it had receded a foot more. It will fall slowly, but, judging from the past records of the river, Main Street will be free of water late this evening.

This fresher compares with that of the latter part of May of 1889. The official record shows it to be also about as great as that of April, 1888. Then the water at Richmond was 23.3 feet. The height of the water at the greatest of all the floods remembered in Richmond—that of 1877—was 28 feet. The first of the floods now remembered is that of October 1, 1870. Then the water at the north end

strange to see four feet ten inches of water in Main Street thirty yards west of Seventeenth Street, and six feet of water in Franklin Street where that thoroughfare divides the market. But such they beheld.

From daylight yesterday morning until midnight the day was unusual. Hundreds in the flooded districts woke up to find that they must use boats to get out of their houses; that for the next thirty-six hours they would have to live only on the second floor. Early yesterday morning the river men came to the relief and release of those who were imprisoned by the water.

A VERITABLE VENICE.

The section of the city which is in the Seventeenth Street valley was a veritable Venice. Every part of the picture was present. It is true it was crude. But it was faithful. There were the gondoliers, the gondoliers, with their songs and shouts. The castles were those of the imagination, those that are built in Spain. The boatmen established a ferry across Main Street, charging five cents to "row you over." Thus they kept up a thriving business until late last night. The Main Street and Church Hill cars came down to the water's edge on each side. So far as the ferry is concerned, this is also true of the lower part of Main just entering Fulton.

The picture of chaos and confusion was made complete when after midnight the water slackened time at the Warner Moore Mills and fired the net for it. Gas will likely be turned on to-night. To-morrow night will see the present fresher a thing of the past. But years will pass before it is forgotten. Others yet to come will be compared with it, and it will go down in the water records and traditions of the city as one of the great floods, the first great flood of the twentieth century.

And the passing of it suggests what so many thought of yesterday—the great loss that came to every one in reach of the murky waters. The slime of the serpent will be left behind it. It will cost

MAYO'S BRIDGE IN DANGER.

Mayor's Bridge was in danger all the afternoon. During the early afternoon persons were allowed to go out on the bridge. They were forbidden this later in the afternoon by order of the police.

The first hour during which the water receded it fell very slowly. By midnight the shrinking became perceptibly more rapid. Gas will likely be turned on to-night. To-morrow night will see the present fresher a thing of the past. But years will pass before it is forgotten. Others yet to come will be compared with it, and it will go down in the water records and traditions of the city as one of the great floods, the first great flood of the twentieth century.

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Yesterday was remarkable. It will stand apart in the history of Richmond. It was a day of intense excitement for the conservative people of Richmond. Little business was done. But few absconded persons in the city who did not visit some spot from which the water could be seen to an advantage. The sight was unique. Not for nearly eleven years has it been possible to behold the flood of the thousands who live along Main Street in the neighborhood of Seventeenth and the Main-Street Passenger Depot, or along Franklin at the Old Market. It was

NEW ADMINISTRATION LAUNCHED TO-DAY.

Governor, Lieutenant-Governor and Attorney-General to Assume Office in Presence of Constitutional Convention.

The inaugural programme: Convention meets at noon to-day. Chief feature of proceedings will be inauguration of newly-elected State officers.

All the State offices will be closed on account of holiday.

After inauguration Governor Montague will deliver his inaugural address in the presence of the convention.

From 9 to 11 at night there will be the usual inaugural reception at the Governor's Mansion.

Prayer will be offered in convention by Rev. Dr. T. B. Thames, pastor of the Baptist church in Danville, where the new Governor worshipped when he resided there.

Mr. D. A. Ritchie was last night appointed private secretary to Governor Montague.

This morning Andrew Jackson Montague is Attorney-General of Virginia. This afternoon he will be the Governor of the State, and for the next four years will direct its affairs as Chief Executive.

Final arrangements have been made for the inaugural ceremonies, which will take place in the hall of the House of Delegates at noon to-day. A conference of the convention and legislative committee was held in Hon. A. P. Thom's room in the Ruess Hotel last night, and the details of the programme as heretofore agreed upon were confirmed with but few changes.

The two committees will hold another meeting at 10:30 o'clock this morning in the convention hall.

The gubernatorial party will meet in the Senate chamber at 11:30 o'clock and will form there march into the convention hall promptly at noon. The hall has been thoroughly renovated, and the high desks have been removed from the rostrum, so as to give a better view of the

WEATHER FORECAST.

Forecast for Wednesday and Thursday: Virginia—Fair and colder Wednesday. Thursday fair, fresh northwest winds. North Carolina—Fair Wednesday, with colder in northeast portion; Thursday fair, fresh west winds.

New Industries Tread Up on Toes of Old Ones.

FORWARD THE WORD

From Border Line to Sea There is New Life.

MONEY IS PLENTIFUL

Farmers Raised Good Crops and Got Good Prices.

TOWNS SHOW LARGE BUSINESS

New Railroads Being Built in the Southwest and Great Activity is Shown in Lumber and Mining—Large Developments in Coal and Coke in Wise, Lee and Other Counties—Large Increase in Oyster Industry and Many Other Lines.

RECORD IN THE STATE.

Farmers in prosperous condition. Crops were good and the prices were high.

Cash system, established in place of credit.

Banking facilities increased in rural parts.

A million dollars' worth of potatoes sold in one county.

Agricultural lands in Rockbridge in demand at \$30 an acre.

New manufactures in nearly every county.

Virginia steps lively in the march of progress, and the round-up for the first year of the new century shows results of which every citizen may well feel proud.

The old Commonwealth has not, in its palmiest days before, ever enjoyed greater prosperity or had more money to spend than in the year 1901.

Several instances can be cited where single counties reaped an income of nearly a million dollars from one product alone during the year.

This is notably so in Tidewater Virginia, and especially on the Eastern Shore, where potato is king and where more than a million barrels have been shipped in a season.

The last year prices have been high, and the returns have made the farmers wear hearty smiles along with patent leather shoes and good clothes.

The extension of electric car lines and telephone lines have opened a new era and a new phase in farm life and a new intelligence and thrift is being brought to bear upon the destiny of the farmer.

From every county in the State comes news of the influx of capital and the starting of new enterprises. The towns tell of small manufactures and new buildings and the counties of good crops, enlarged markets and general prosperity.

The following reports from special correspondents of The Times all over the State will be found both interesting and instructive, and, in some cases, surprising.

SALEM'S INDUSTRIES.

The Apple Crop of Roanoke Fast Becoming the Most Valuable Income.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

SALEM, VA., Dec. 31.—Salem is enjoying an unusual degree of prosperity.

The Salem Machine Works, builders of flour and corn mill machinery, have this year filled more orders than any previous year. A larger and better equipped foundry has been built.

The Salem Steam Tannery, which covers several acres, with a capacity of 200 hides daily, is unable to supply the demand, and a new building is nearing completion, which will increase the capacity 100 hides daily.

In the year the development of the apple industry has created much interest in the county, and thousands of apple trees now flourish upon land that was considered practically worthless, and Roanoke county has taken a foremost place among the apple-raising counties of the State. A number of farmers have received from \$5,000 to \$15,000 for this year's apple crop.

The Hotel Duval was recently sold to Mr. W. D. Crawford. He takes charge January 1st, and will spend \$5,000 in placing the hotel in fine condition.

GROWTH OF NEWPORT NEWS.

Its Great Shipyard Makes Vast Improvements New Ship Lines.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

NEWPORT NEWS, VA., December 31.—The year just closing finds Newport News with her best foot forward, a fair prospect ahead, and considerable ground covered during the twelve months.

The completion of the great new dry-dock at the ship-yard has added enormously to the capacity of that plant, and has brought new work here that could not have been obtained otherwise. Something like \$2,000,000 was expended in this and other improvements that were available at the beginning of the present year. Several hundred thousand dollars will be expended in the next few months in other improvements, notably the building of two new shipways and cranes and the installation of new electric machinery in the vast shops. The yard now employs about 6,500 men and laborers, and will add to this number as rapidly as possible.